

# **Co-operative Federation of Victoria Ltd**

Minutes of board meeting of 15 March 2007, Substitution Pty Ltd, 1/484 William Street, North Melbourne.

Present: Dianne Batterham, Niel Black, Graeme Charles, Tony O'Shea (Chairman) and David Griffiths (Secretary)

Apology: David Dinning

## **1. Minutes**

That the minutes of the meeting of 18 January 2007 be signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

## **2. Co-operative Education**

Graeme Charles reported on the status of the co-operative education initiatives. It was noted:

- 1) Co-operative brochure had been prepared by UK Co-operative College.
- 2) Fonterra had paid outstanding amount of \$200 for one day workshop fee.
- 3) Co-operatives WA had declined the opportunity for a one day workshop.
- 4) With the completion of the brochure a letter with the brochure and a workshop outline would be forwarded to the National Credit Union Association.
- 5) Graeme Charles had attended the Gardiner Foundation Reception at Queens Hall, Parliament House, on 19 February 2007 and that a report on the project had been lodged with the Foundation.
- 6) Tony O'Shea would be recommending to the AVOCA co-operative that it participate in a Co-operative Identity Workshop.
- 7) Tony O'Shea and Graeme Charles had met with Michael White, Training Manager, Centre for Excellence in Child and Family Welfare Inc, on 27 February 2007 and that the Secretary will forward information on co-operatives for use by the Centre.
- 8) There have been discussions with Barossa Community store and Co-operative College regarding a retail co-operative workshop and that there were approximately 20 reasonably sized retail co-operatives throughout Australia and CFNSW had expressed support and interest in the workshop. It was noted that Ebbe Lundgaard, Chairman, FDB (Denmark), was not supportive of FDB participation

The brochure was discussed and whether it was sufficiently dynamic and persuasive to persuade co-operatives and co-operatives to participate in a Co-operative Identity workshop and three options were discussed:

Redesigning the cover.

Redesigning the cover and rewriting the content.

Producing a separate and shorter complementary brochure.

Directors were asked to provide comments on the options to the Secretary by 22 March 2007.

#### **4. Government**

It was noted that arrangements for a meeting with the new Minister for Consumer Affairs Daniel Andrews had not been successful.

It was noted that Tony O'Shea would be meeting with the Minister for Agriculture, on, 16 March 2007.

It was noted that the briefing had not been prepared and circulated to directors on:

CFV access to annual returns  
Co-operatives Regulations 1997  
Health co-operatives  
Small co-operatives and audits

David Griffiths is to prepare the briefing note with Dianne Batterham contributing the notes on health co-operatives.

#### **4. australia.coop**

David Griffiths reported that a new records were created in January and February 2007 with over 25,000 visitors each month.

It was noted that there had been 66 updates since 18 January 2007.

He also reported that arrangements had been made for a site monitoring service to monitor the site every 5 -15 minutes.

It was noted that the current poll would be replaced today and that there had been suspected multiple voting for the poll due to the number of votes cast over two short periods of time and the total number of votes. He said that measures had been introduced to limit multiple voting.

#### **5. Housing Co-operatives**

Tony O'Shea reported on a meeting with Robert Macbeth, Manager, Social Housing Sector, Department of Human Services on 18 January 1987.

It was agreed that a training proposal for housing co-operatives would be forwarded to the Social Housing Sector, Department of Human Services. This would be prepared by the Secretary and forwarded by the Chairman.

#### **6.Small Co-operatives and Audit Requirements**

David Griffiths and Graeme Charles reported on a meeting with Hon. Wendy Lovell, the Shadow Minister for Consumer Affairs on 26 February 2007. They reported that the meeting was constructive and frank and that the Shadow Minister had promised to raise issues on our behalf if the Government was unresponsive.

It was agreed that a submission would be made to the State Services Authority review of Not For Profit Regulation. Documentation was emailed to directors on 01 March 2007. Submissions are due by 18 May 2007.

It was agreed that a letter would be sent to relevant members seeking views on a submission and indicating that it would be assumed that members supported the submission unless they expressed a contrary view in writing.

## **7. Co-operation between Co-operatives**

Tony O'Shea reported that the meeting of the Co-operative Council of Australia had not been confirmed since the co-operatives teleconference between Co-operatives WA, CFV and CFNSW on 19 January 2007 and that Co-operativesWA had not circulated a draft agenda.

It was agreed that CFV would request the following agenda items:

1. Co-operative Education and Co-operative Identity
2. Membership of the ICA
3. Co-operative Legislation including new WA legislation
4. Small co-operatives and audits
5. Retail co-operative workshop
6. A national Executive Officer

It was noted that CFV would be represented by the Chairman.

## **9. Financial Statements**

The following financial statements were tabled:

Draft Cash Budget for period 1/1/2007 to 30/6/2007

Statement of Receipts and Payments for period 1 July 2006 – 1 March 2007

## **10. Executive Officer**

Graeme Charles' paper, Brief Discussion Paper re consideration of appointment of an Executive Officer, was discussed.

It was agreed that further consideration needed to be given to the role of an Executive Officer.

## **11. Health Co-operatives**

It was agreed that further consideration needed to be given to developing and promoting the health co-operative model.

It was also noted that the Secretary would discuss with Dianne Batterham the Westgate Health website.

**Next Meeting:** 10: 30. am, 17 May 2007, Substitution Pty Ltd, 1/484 William Street, North Melbourne

Prepared by David Griffiths: 20 March 2007

Approved by Tony O'Shea: 24 March 2007

Emailed to directors: 25 March 2007

Snail mailed to directors: 26 March 2007

# **Co-operative Federation of Victoria Ltd**

## **2007 Schedule of Board and AGM meetings**

### **Board**

Start time: 10:30am

Venue: Substitution Pty Ltd, 1/484 William Street, North Melbourne

These dates have been confirmed.

15 March 2007

17 May 2007

19 July 2007

20 September 2007

15 November 2007

### **AGM**

Start time: 12:00 Midday

Venue: Urban Camp Melbourne Co-operative, Brens Drive, Parkville

15 March 2007